

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A suction-adhesive device comprising:
 - a suction cup;
 - a stem extending from the suction cup;
 - a body through which the stem extends;
 - a spring interacting with the stem and the body for biasing the suction cup towards the body to apply suction; ~~and~~
 - a visual indicator fixed with respect to the stem for indicating when the spring has drawn the suction cup towards the body; and
locking means interacting with the body and the stem for selectively fixing the stem with respect to the body against deformation of the springs, said locking means comprising a slide plate having a tongue extending therefrom and a cam surface, and wherein there is attached to the handle a pawl engaging with the cam surface and wherein the body has an aperture through which the tongue passes to interact with the stem.
2. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the visual indicator is attached to or formed integrally with the stem.
3. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1, wherein the visual indicator is a ring of contrasting colour compared with the body or a part thereof adjacent the ring.
4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim ~~4~~ 1, further including a handle attached movably to the body and interacting with the locking means.

6. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the body includes a neck through which the stem extends and beyond which the visual indicator protrudes when the spring has drawn the suction cup toward the body.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim ~~7~~ 1, wherein the tongue interacts with an aperture in the visual indicator.

9. (Original) The device of Claim 5, wherein the handle is shaped like a hook.

10. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1, wherein the stem has a pushbutton for depression against the action of the spring.

11. (Original) The device of Claim 5, wherein the stem has a pushbutton against which the handle can press.

12. (Currently Amended) A suction-adhesive device comprising:
a suction cup;
a stem extending from the suction cup;
a body through which the stem extends;
a spring interacting with the stem and the body for biasing the suction cup toward the body [[;]] and

locking means interacting with the body and the stem for selectively fixing the stem with respect to the body against deformation of the spring, said locking

means comprising a slide plate having a tongue extending therefrom and a cam surface, and wherein there is attached to the handle a pawl engaging with the cam surface and wherein the body has an aperture through which the tongue passes to interact with the stem.

13. (Original) The device of Claim 12, further comprising a handle attached movably to the body and interacting with the locking means.

14. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 12, and further comprising a coloured ring fixed with respect to the stem, wherein the body includes a neck through which ~~the~~ a stem extends and beyond which the coloured ring protrudes when the spring has drawn the suction cup toward the body.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim ~~15~~ 14, wherein the tongue interacts with an aperture in the coloured ring.

17. (Original) The device of Claim 13, wherein the handle is shaped like a hook.

18. (Original) The device of Claim 12, wherein the stem has a pushbutton against which the handle can press.

19. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 2, wherein the visual indicator is a ring of contrasting colour compared with the body or a part thereof adjacent the ring.

20. (Canceled)